

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	Applicants:	Kitahara, et al.
	Application No.	Not yet assigned
	Filed:	April 2, 2004
	For:	AUTOMATIC CIRCUIT DESIGN APPARATUS, METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY DESIGNING A CIRCUIT, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR EXECUTING AN APPLICATION FOR AN AUTOMATIC CIRCUIT DESIGN APPARATUS
	Group Art Unit:	Not yet assigned
	Examiner:	Not yet assigned
	Attorney Docket No.:	2102487-991340

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
Dear Sir:	
In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant(s) hereby make of record the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.	
This Information Disclosure Statement:	
(a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	accompanies a new patent application submitted herewith.
(b) <input type="checkbox"/>	is filed within three (3) months of the Filing Date or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits; OR
(c) <input type="checkbox"/>	after the period defined in (b) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, OR
(d) <input type="checkbox"/>	is filed after the first Office Action and more than three months after the application's filing date or PCT national stage date of entry filing but, as far as is known to the undersigned prior to the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, and is accompanied by either the fee (\$180) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) or a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below OR
(e) <input type="checkbox"/>	is filed after the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, and the issue fee has not been paid, and is accompanied by the requisite petition fee (\$130) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(l)(1) and a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below. This document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
As required under § 1.97(e), Applicants, through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space]:	
(f) <input type="checkbox"/>	Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

(g)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
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It is respectfully requested that each of the references shown on the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

A concise explanation of relevance for Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-101397 pertains to a switch-transistor that is separated from an MT- cell, and it is treated as a single cell. This makes placement of MT-cells easier.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment of fees to our Deposit Account No. 07-1896. Copies of the references are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 2, 2004

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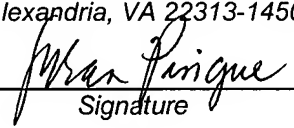
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as EXPRESS MAIL (EV 302280519 US) in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

April 2, 2004
Date


Signature

Form PTO-1449 (modified 2/91) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office		Attorney Docket Number: 2102487-991340	Serial Number: Not yet assigned
	Applicants: Kitahara, et al.			
	Filing date: April 2, 2004		Group art unit: Not yet assigned	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Patent number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing date if appropriate
	6,586,982	07-2003	Furusawa, et al.			
	6,493,856	12-2002	Usami et al			
	2003/0102898	06-2003	Furusawa et al			
	2002/0008545	01-2002	Zama, et al			
	2002/0099989	07-2002	Kawabe et al			
	2002/0144223	10-2002	Usami et al			
	2003/0160634	08-2003	Mushiga et al			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation YES NO
2003-101397	04-2003	Japan			X (Abstract only)

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Usami et al., "Automated Selective Multi-Threshold Design For Ultra-Low Standby Applications," Proceedings of the 2002 International Symposium on Low Power Electronics and Design, pp. 202-206, August 2002.

Examiner:	Date Considered:
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP '609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	